(v) grant of incentives by way of exemption from excise duty and higher free-sale quotas to newly established factories expansion projects.

Crisis of the post Green Revolution

519. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a team of U.S. Researchers on dryland agricultural problems has predicted "a Crisis of the post-Green Revolution" in the Indian rural sector in the near future; and

(b) if so, the details of the report of the team and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In pursuance of the 4th meeting of the Indo-US Sub-Commission on Agriculture in 1985, two US teams on Dryland Farming and Economics visited India during April & June, 1987 respectively. The teams held discussions with Indian Scientists on possible joint collaborative research proposals between ICAR Institutes and US Research Institutes in the area of Dryland Farming/Arid Zone Agriculture and on Economic and Social issues on dryland farming.

Based on review and analysis of the Indian data on population trends, food-grain requirements, production trends in irrigated and unirrigated areas potential for expansion of irrigated areas, etc. The Economists team feels that India would require a massive effort to step up its production for ensuring food security to its future populations. The further suggested that the dryland agriculture needs to experience a sustained positive rate of growth of output so as to provide income from sales of marketable surpluses by the farmers, wage income to labourers, and cheaper food to the rural poor. To achieve the objectives of sustained growth, research proposals in the area of dryland farming including integrated soil and water conservation practices, agro-meteorology etc. have been developed. The proposals also cover economic and social issues—tapping of ground-water, over grazing of public lands and adoption of agro-forestry on private land and potential for expansion of oilseeds production and/or imports in India.

These proposals have since been discussed between the scientists of the two countries and concrete projects are being developed as a follow-up for implementation, which will strengthen research back-up for promotion of dryland farming.

Establishment of a National Fund for Employees losing jobs

520. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the establishment of a national fund for rehabilitation of employees losing their jobs due to closures of industrial units or their retrenchment as part of a revival plan; and

(b) if so, by when the said fund is likely to be created?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal under the consideration of Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Rise in unemployment in Punjab

521. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any evaluation of the unemployment